



**CITY OF AUBURN
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

December 21, 2009

DRAFT MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rich Wagner called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, located on the first floor of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street, Auburn, Washington. Committee members present were: Chairman Rich Wagner, Vice-Chair Gene Cerino, and Member Sue Singer. Also present during the meeting were: Mayor Peter B. Lewis, Public Works Director Dennis Dowdy, City Engineer/Assistant Director Dennis Selle, Assistant City Engineer Ingrid Gaub, Senior Project Engineer Bill Helbig, Utilities Engineer Dan Repp, Storm Drainage Engineer Tim Carlaw, Water Quality Coordinator Chris Thorn, Transportation Planner Joe Welsh, Transportation Planner/Grants Manager Chris Hankins, Traffic Engineer Pablo Para, Assistant Planning Director Kevin Snyder, Planner Chris Andersen, King County Metro Service Planning Supervisor David Hull and Transportation Planner Katie Chalmers, Bob Thompson from Miles Sand and Gravel, and Department Secretary Jennifer Rigsby.

Chairman Wagner thanked Vice-Chair Cerino for his years of services on the Public Works Committee and City Council.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Vice-Chair Cerino, seconded by Member Singer, that the Committee approve the Public Works Committee minutes for date, December 7, 2009.

Motion carried 3-0.

B. APPROVE FINAL PAY ESTIMATE NO. 3 TO CONTRACT NO. 09-14 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$0.00 FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE OF \$103,446.75 WITH DOOLITTLE CONSTRUCTION, LLC AND ACCEPT CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECT NO. CP0918, 2009 ARTERIAL COLLECTOR CRACK SEAL PROJECT

Senior Project Engineer Helbig was present. Chairman Wagner asked how the roads were chosen for the project. Helbig answered staff brings the proposed project sites to Committee in late spring for vetting. Chairman Wagner asked how staff determines which roads should be part of the project. Helbig stated staff uses the Pavement Management database with the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) and gathers input from the Streets Department on areas of their greatest concern. Chairman Wagner suggested that staff contact the Auburn School District Transportation Director, to obtain information from school bus drivers for additional input regarding the condition of arterial collectors with future projects.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Cerino, seconded by Member Singer, that the Committee recommend Council approve Final Pay Estimate No. 3 to Contract No. 09-14 and accept construction of Project No. CP0918, 2009 Arterial Collector Crack Seal Project.

Motion carried 3-0.

C. APPROVE TRANSPORTATION DESIGN STANDARDS REVISIONS

Traffic Engineer Para presented the revised transportation design standards to the Committee. Member Singer asked if there were any additional changes made since the last time the Committee reviewed the design standards. Para stated that other than minor formatting changes there were none.

Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle answered questions asked by Chairman Wagner regarding Section 10.02.2.4, Vertical Grades.

Chairman Wagner and staff discussed Section 10.04.3, Table 10-3, and the 2640 ft minimum intersection spacing where minor arterials intersect minor arterials. Chairman Wagner asked what would happen if there is a sensible place for a new development to intersect a minor arterial and the spacing is not 2640 ft from an existing intersection. Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle explained the developer would be able to request a deviation from the standards which would then be reviewed and evaluated by staff to determine if the proposed road location is the most appropriate location. Para pointed out that most residential housing developments would have a collector intersecting a minor arterial and the minimum intersection spacing is less. Chairman Wagner stated he was concerned that only traffic related issues would be considered by staff when reviewing a request for a deviation and not the needs of the development. Mayor Lewis stated he is in support of the staff review of the minimum intersection spacing when developers are not able to meet the design standards. Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle said staff would consult the Committee if there are a lot of requests for reasonable deviations from the standards and would review the standards to determine if changes need to be made.

Referring to Section 10.17.6, Area Circulation Plan, Chairman Wagner asked that verbiage be added to recognize that in the case of special events that are difficult to analyze with ordinary AM/PM peak traffic analyses would be addressed in an area circulation plan. Traffic Engineer Para responded that staff has the ability to request additional analysis based on the development, referenced under Section 10.17.3, Special Uses. Para said it would be difficult to summarize all of the different uses where different requirements would apply. Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle stated the circulation plan requirements would also be used in conjunction with SEPA and through the SEPA process the City can require specific traffic analyses, reviews, assessment, etc. to be incorporated. Chairman Wagner stated that the Planning and Community Development Committee was looking for a way for a development that would not enter the total traffic impact analysis process to be required to conduct an area circulation plan. Chairman Wagner recommended that some of the detail in section 10.17.3 be included in 10.17.6. Pablo verified the same language in 10.17.3 will be used as a bullet point in 10.17.6. Chairman Wagner asked if Assistant Planning Director Snyder provided feedback on Section 10.17.6. Traffic Engineer Para stated Assistant Planning Director Snyder was provided the revised standards for review and no comments on the section were returned to staff. Member Singer gave an example of a development that may be required to provide an area circulation plan.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Cerino, seconded by Member Singer, that the Committee approve the revisions to the transportation design standards with the changes discussed.

Motion carried 3-0.

III. ISSUES

- J. ORDINANCE NO. 6283 AMENDING SECTIONS 12.04.010, 13.41.010, 13.48.010, 13.48.180, 13.48.210, AND 13.48.225 OF THE AUBURN CITY CODE; CREATING A NEW SECTION 13.48.226 OF THE AUBURN CITY CODE; AMENDING SECTIONS 13.48.230 AND 13.48.250 OF THE AUBURN CITY CODE; REPEALING SECTION 13.48.260 OF THE AUBURN CITY CODE; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13.48.290, 13.48.440, 15.74.030, AND 15.74.050 OF THE AUBURN CITY CODE; ALL RELATING TO ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT MANUAL

Storm Drainage Engineer Carlaw distributed a revised version of Ordinance No. 6283. Carlaw stated under Section 3, the definition for "Emerging Technology" was added to the ordinance and the definition was taken directly from the Surface Water Management Manual (SWMM). Chairman Wagner stated he had questions about the manual that may affect the changes made in Sections 6, Item 5 of the ordinance.

Page 17: Chairman Wagner discussed that he would like staff to consider ways of giving credit for Low Impact Development (LID) best management practices beyond what is currently proposed for potential future revisions. Staff pointed out that there are some limitations within the NPDES permit and it may take some time to receive approval for the Department of Ecology (DOE) for some forms of incentive.

Page 18: Chairman Wagner requested that a reference to credit being given for proponents that use permanent pervious pavements. Chairman Wagner stated there should be emphasis put on credits or incentives for LID in several areas. Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle said that staff's goal is to meet the NPDES Phase II requirements by putting the manual in place to meet our permit deadline and then come back and review LID incentives and alternatives where Council may desire to amend the manual.

Volume 2: Chairman Wagner asked if there is a requirement as to how long construction sites need erosion mitigation practices in place. Carlaw stated typically the measures are removed following construction. The committee would like staff to look at setting a time frame for their removal after completion of construction in future revisions to the manual as often developers leave them in place and they become an undesirable feature of the landscape.

Volume 3: Chairman Wagner asked for reconciliation with the rate structure in future revisions of the manual.

Member Singer asked why the Tacoma manual is referenced in the proposed code changes. Storm Drainage Engineer Carlaw answered that it is a permit requirement to show that we are using an approved equivalent manual.

Page 781: Carlaw answered questions asked by Chairman Wagner regarding the requirement for runoff from lawns being directed onto porous surfaces.

Page 782: Chairman Wagner asked where the reference regarding water quality testing is from. Carlaw answered it is from the State DOE manual.

The Committee reviewed the changes in the ordinance to Section 6, Item 5.

The Committee discussed use of the 2005 Washington State University Low Impact Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound, which is currently being updated.

Storm Drainage Engineer Carlaw responded to questions asked by Member Singer regarding homeowners who want to park recreational vehicles on their property.

Carlaw pointed out that the SWMM is replacing Chapter 6 of the Design Standards Manual and that chapter will ask users to reference the SWMM.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Cerino, seconded by Member Singer, that the Committee recommend Council approve and adopt Ordinance No. 6283.

Motion carried 3-0.

IV. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

A. COMMUNITY SHUTTLE

Transportation Planner Welsh reported the community shuttle is the second of the two services planned as part of Transit Now. This shuttle is a mid-day oriented community shuttle, similar to the Kent Shopper Shuttle. The concept is to provide service to areas that are under served or not served at all. The primary purposes of the shuttle are to: 1) Provide better, more reliable service to east Auburn, 40th Street NE/I Street NE, which are now served by Dial A Ride Transit (DART) service and 2) Provide direct service to the YMCA, Supermall, and Downtown corridor. Operation will be 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the route will operate hourly. Welsh stated the projected ridership is 12 riders per hour.

Transportation Planner Welsh introduced King County Metro Service Planning Supervisor David Hull and Transportation Planner Katie Chalmers to the Committee.

Chairman Wagner asked how long it would take a rider to get from the north end of the route to the south end. Transportation Planner Chalmers answered approximately 20 to 25 minutes.

The Committee and staff reviewed the map showing the additions and deviations to route 919 and route 910. Transportation Planner Chalmers answered questions asked by Chairman Wagner regarding the new service that would be provided to the area currently served by (DART). Service Planning Supervisor Hull discussed the schedule for the public input period and the passing of the ordinance that would allow the service to move forward and begin in September 2010.

Member Singer and Mayor Lewis discussed the budget for the service. Service Planning Supervisor Hull spoke about other jurisdictions that had to postpone the service due to financial difficulties. Mayor Lewis and Service Planning Supervisor Hull discussed the possibility of rescheduling service to start sooner than September 2010.

The Committee and staff reviewed the route maps provided by Transportation Planner Welsh.

The Committee and Mayor Lewis supported moving forward with the partnership.

B. UTILITY RATE STRUCTURE

Utilities Engineer Repp reviewed Ordinance No. 6286 with the Committee which reflects the rate structure discussed at the December 7th Public Works Committee Meeting for all three

utilities. Repp reported a 6.9% increase for water, 10% for sanitary sewer, and a 5.4% increase for storm.

Utilities Engineer Repp answered questions asked by Chairman Wagner regarding the existing programmed 6% rate increase and the proposed additional rate increases. The existing 6% rate increase will move forward and in 2010 the additional increase to the water rate will be .9% to equal the proposed 6.9%, sanitary sewer 4% and storm 6% with a 5.4% increase in the subsequent years.

Chairman Wagner asked why wholesale accounts are exempt from utility taxes. Repp answered that it is probably because the accounts are not retail.

Utilities Engineer Repp stated the ordinance will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and brought back to Public Works Committee for final review and action.

C. PARKING ON PLANTING STRIPS

Transportation Planner/Grants Manager Hankins explained that staff has reviewed the positive and negative aspects of allowing parking on planting strips and staff does not see how the parking can be reasonably supported due to the impact it has on the City's utilities structures, individual water meters that are located in the planting strips, emergency vehicle access and access to fire hydrants.

Hankins stated staff recommends that parking not be allowed on planting strips and instead on-street parking be provided on one side of the street on a case-by-case basis to help address neighborhood parking concerns.

The Committee and staff discussed the definition of a planting strip versus a shoulder, as referenced on page 3 of Ordinance No. 6275. Director Dowdy suggested adding the statement, "...between the roadway edge and either the sidewalk or edge of the right-of-way where no sidewalk is present," to the definition of a Shoulder.

The Committee and staff discussed the narrowing of the roadways where parking may be allowed on one side of the street. Assistant Director/City Engineer Selle explained the VRFA will be consulted prior to parking being allowed. The Committee and staff discussed signage for the streets where parking would be allowed.

Transportation Planner/Grants Manager Hankins stated a revised ordinance will be presented to the Municipal Services Committee and then back to the Public Works Committee for action.

D. GREEN STREETS FOR THE AUBURN ENVIRONMENTAL PARK

Chairman Wagner gave the Committee and staff a PowerPoint presentation on a project completed by senior engineering students at Washington State University. The project focuses on defining what pervious concrete streets would look like in the Auburn Environmental Park AEP area. Clay Street and Western Street were used in the project as examples. The students were asked to address surface water retention, transport, and treatment in their street design. The students were also asked to consider the roadway load, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and some limited parking. Environmentally friendly LED lighting was also included as part of the green street design. The students included drawings, calculations, cost estimates, a permit outline and construction guidelines in the project.

Chairman Wagner reviewed the site map that the students developed. Only the portions of the streets that were adjacent to the AEP were the project focus. The paramount need was determined to be to manage stormwater to protect the wetlands and Mill Creek as well as to attract environmentally-conscious businesses to the AEP District and to promote the AEP.

Chairman Wagner reviewed the preferred alternative to asphalt, pervious concrete. The Committee viewed the photo that showed asphalt versus pervious concrete. Another alternative is porous asphalt. Chairman Wagner discussed some of the findings about porous asphalt.

Chairman Wagner reviewed the selected design with the Committee and staff. The design included raising the street above the water table for retention, transport, and treatment. The Committee reviewed the design calculations. Chairman Wagner answered questions asked by Member Singer and Mayor Lewis regarding sideslope stability and water transport.

Chairman Wagner spoke about the work done on selection of the LED lighting design.

The Committee and staff reviewed the cost estimate. Chairman Wagner suggested the cost may be less than estimates because the traffic control costs would be less.

The presentation concluded with the potential next steps: expanding engineering analysis of raised street cross section and determine the general technology's application to the Downtown Promenade, initiate conversations with regulatory agencies, and to apply for grants to build Western Avenue as a demonstration project.

The Committee and staff discussed the demonstration project and the transition that would be needed to accommodate a raised street section. Bob Thompson from Miles Sand and Gravel spoke about sustainability and alternatives to impervious concrete that are in the research phase.

Chairman Wagner spoke about Green River Community College potentially offering a concrete technician certification.

Chairman Wagner stated there is a second group of senior engineers from Washington State University that will be starting projects in January 2010 and he would like to write a proposal for the students to review the Downtown Promenade and the use of pervious concrete.

The Committee and staff discussed the use of pervious concrete on sidewalks with Mr. Thompson.

The Committee and staff discussed the possibility of obtaining grant funding for the Western Avenue demonstration project.

E. CAPITAL PROJECT STATUS REPORT

There were no questions/comments from the Committee.

F. FLOOD PREPAREDNESS STATUS UPDATE

Director Dowdy reported that the only work that remains on our Primary Containment Project is relocation of some of the pre-filled supersacks that were frozen during the cold weather.

Dowdy also stated that King County is almost done with the work south of the Auburn Golf Course.

Member Singer asked if there will be public education instructing people not to climb on the supersacks. Mayor Lewis answered the King County Prosecutors' Office has declared it to be a felony to tamper with the flood protection devices and stickers are being put on the supersacks to notify the public to stay off.

G. WATER EASEMENT RELINQUISHMENT AT 29935 112th AVENUE SE

Assistant City Engineer Gaub stated an applicant in the process of dividing the property at 29935 112th Avenue SE into two parcels. Gaub identified the property location on a map. Gaub said there is an existing waterline that crosses the parcel between 111th and 112th Avenues. Staff reviewed the need for this waterline connection and determined there is adequate looping of the system in other locations making the line unnecessary to maintain the City's system. The applicant has done the work to disconnect and abandon the waterline and staff is seeking Committee concurrence to release the easement so the applicant can continue with the processing of their short plat.

Chairman Wagner asked if the abandoned waterline needs to be removed. Assistant City Engineer Gaub answered the City does not have to remove the line. The applicant hired a contractor to sever the connection and cap the existing line. Chairman Wagner asked if there is a Hold Harmless Agreement. Gaub stated part of the release is the release of the City's interest in the line.

The Committee agreed with relinquishing the water easement at 29935 112th Avenue SE.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Public Works Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Rich Wagner
Chairman

Jennifer Rigsby
Public Works Department Secretary